

Message Text

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PAGE 01 THE HA 03660 051340Z
ACTION OIC-02

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INFO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS THE HAGUE 3660

FOR IO/OIC - WALKER

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: OCON
SUBJECT: CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

THE FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY REPORT OF THE US REPRESENTATIVE
TO THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN
STATISTICIANS. BEGIN TEXT:

1. THE TWENTY-SIXTH PLENARY SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE
OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS WAS HELD IN GENEVA IN THE
PALAIS DES NATIONS FROM JUNE 26-30, 1978.

2. LENGTHY TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS WERE HELD ON THE
FOLLOWING THREE AGENDA ITEMS:

ITEM 3. THE EXTENT TO WHICH STATISTICAL OFFICES SHOULD
ENGAGE IN STATISTICAL ANALYSIS.

ITEM 4. THE POSITION OF OFFICIAL STATISTICS IN OVERALL
INFORMATION SYSTEMS.

ITEM 5. METHOD USED BY STATISTICAL AGENCIES TO AVOID
OR REDUCE RESISTANCE TO STATISTICAL INQUIRIES AND TO
MAINTAIN ADEQUATE RESPONSE RATES.

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THESE TOPICS WERE OF INTEREST TO THE UNITED STATES SINCE
THEY WERE SELECTED FROM THE LIST OF TEN TOPICS RECOMMENDED
FOR STUDY BY THE SEMINAR ON STATISTICAL SERVICES IN TEN
YEARS' TIME, HELD IN MARCH 1977 IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

3. THE CONFERENCE DECIDED THE FUTURE WORK PROGRAM OF THE

CES AND SELECTED ITEMS FOR SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION AT FUTURE
PLENARY SESSIONS. THE CONFERENCE PLANS TO HOLD 8 MEETINGS
IN 1978/79 AND APPROXIMATELY 9 MEETINGS IN 1979/80. OF
PARTICULAR INTEREST TO THE UNITED STATES WILL BE THE
MEETING IN 1979/80 ON SYSTEMS OF NATIONAL ACCOUNTS AND
BALANCES. CONCLUSIONS REACHED BY THE CONFERENCE PLACE NO
DEMANDS ON US RESOURCES. ON THE FINAL DAY OF THE
CONFERENCE, JEAN RIPERT, UN DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL AND
FORMER MEMBER OF THE CES, ADDRESSED PARTICIPANTS.

4. THE WORK OF THE CES CONTINUES TO PROVIDE A SIGNIFICANT
INPUT TO THE INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM, ESPECIALLY
THE UN STATISTICAL OFFICE. IT CONTINUES TO PROVIDE A
MECHANISM FOR DISCUSSION OF TOPICS OF INTEREST TO MEMBER
COUNTRIES CONCERNING INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL COOPERATION.
A WRITTEN REPORT WILL BE SUBMITTED BY THE US DELEGATION
UPON RETURN TO WASHINGTON.
BROWN

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